



Making Higher Education More Affordable

KHEAA Publications

Getting Ready Your Guide to Higher Education for Juniors in Kentucky 2006-2007

Getting Ready, a new publication, is aimed at helping high school juniors and their parents plan for education or training after high school. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) has been providing information to high school students for 30 years.

[Contents and Introduction](#)

[Chapter One -- Making the Decision](#)

get a plan
don't hold back
step in tune
college 101
keys to learning
sharpen your chances
national testing dates
what to do...
...and when to do it
admissions
gohigherky.org
campus visits
scams
decisions, decisions

[Chapter Two -- Student Financial Aid](#)

invest in yourself
financial aid q & a
applying for aid
major financial aid
tilting the wheels
debt 101
the student loan people
glossary

KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY AND THE STUDENT LOAN PEOPLE

GETTING READY

YOUR KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION GUIDE

JUNIORS
2006-2007



Are you a model student?

Does your school have the right stuff?

Tell us and win the \$500 “Promote Your School” scholarship.
You and some classmates could also model for
a KHEAA photographer for next year’s cover story!



2005 essay winner Alexandra Horrobin, fourth from left in the third row, of Murray High School and classmates at the model shoot.

Here's how it works:

Students from Murray High School are featured on the covers of this year's KHEAA/The Student Loan Peoplesm publications. You and your school have a chance to be featured on next year's covers and inside the book — and you may win the \$500 “Promote your School” college scholarship.

KHEAA will award a \$500 scholarship, usable at the Kentucky college of the winner's choice, to the high school junior who does the best job of telling us why his or her high school is the best in the state. In addition, a KHEAA photographer will come to that school to take pictures for use in KHEAA publications. Essay entries must be no longer than 200 words (be careful — we count). They can be mailed to Publications Section, KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602-0798, faxed to (502) 696-7230, or e-mailed to publications@kheaa.com.

The **deadline** for receiving entries is **November 1, 2006**.

GETTING READY

YOUR KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION GUIDE

JUNIORS
2006-2007





Chapter 1 Making the Decision

- 3 get a plan
- 4 don't hold back
- 5 step in tune
- 6 college 101
- 8 don't trash your future
- 10 sharpen your chances
- 11 national testing dates
- 12 what to do...
- 13 ...and when to do it
- 14 admissions
- 15 how to go higher
- 16 campus visits
- 18 scams
- 20 decisions, decisions

Chapter 2 Student Financial Aid

- 25 invest in yourself
- 26 financial aid Q & A
- 30 applying for aid
- 32 major financial aid
- 36 tilting the wheel
- 38 hitting the road
- 40 debt 101
- 41 stay carefree through college
- 42 glossary

Published by:
Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
P.O. Box 798
Frankfort, KY 40602-0798
www.kheaa.com

The Student Loan Peoplesm
P.O. Box 24266
Louisville, KY 40224-0266
www.studentloanpeople.com

Getting Ready is a **free** publication aimed at helping high school juniors and their parents plan for education or training after high school. The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) has over a 30-year history of publishing financial aid information to high school students.

Chapter 1 provides general information and guidelines you'll need to begin planning for education or training after high school.

Chapter 2 is devoted to student aid — money to help you pay for higher education. You'll find helpful information on how to finance your college education, what kind of financial aid is available and how you can qualify. You'll also find useful tips and answers to frequently asked questions.

We hope you find this publication a good source as you plan for your future. Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority

Attention: Division of Customer Relations

P.O. Box 798

Frankfort, KY 40602-0798

Toll free: (800) 928-8926, ext. 7381

Fax: (502) 696-7230

E-mail: publications@kheaa.com



Message from the Governor



ERNIE FLETCHER
GOVERNOR



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

700 CAPITAL AVENUE
SUITE 100
FRANKFORT, KY 40601
(502) 564-2611
FAX: (502) 564-2517

Dear Student:

Congratulations as you begin your junior year of high school. You have exciting challenges ahead as you prepare for a significant milestone in your life—graduation. While this is a major achievement, your education should not stop here. A higher education enables you to compete in the global economy.

I am pleased to recommend *Getting Ready*, the state's premier college planning and student aid publication for high school juniors. Produced by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA), *Getting Ready* introduces the college planning process, discusses what to expect during the admissions process, lists Kentucky college and university programs and supplies an overview of financial aid.

The Commonwealth provides millions of dollars annually in merit-based and need-based financial aid to help Kentucky students pay higher education expenses. As you and your family consider options available, I want to direct your attention to a couple of additional considerations.

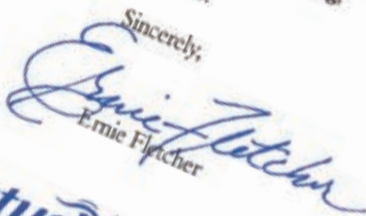
The Student Loan People, Kentucky's only nonprofit provider of student loans, offers the lowest cost loans in the Commonwealth. Visit studentloanpeople.com for more information.

You may also be eligible for the tuition tax credit approved by the 2005 Kentucky General Assembly. Call the Kentucky Department of Revenue at 1-502-564-4591 or visit revenue.ky.gov/livehelp.htm. The credit may be applied for you, your parents or other dependents for undergraduate enrollment at an eligible Kentucky higher education institution.

A college education is a big investment, so keep in mind these ways of making it more affordable. For more information, go to GoHigherKY.org.

I wish you every success in future endeavors.

Sincerely,


Ernie Fletcher


Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT

KentuckyUnbridledSpirit.com

An Equal Opportunity

Chapter 1

Making the decision

- 3 get a plan
- 4 don't hold back
- 5 step in tune
- 6 college 101
- 8 don't trash your future
- 10 sharpen your chances
- 11 national testing dates
- 12 what to do...
- 13 ...and when to do it
- 14 admissions
- 15 how to go higher
- 16 campus visits
- 18 scams
- 20 decisions, decisions

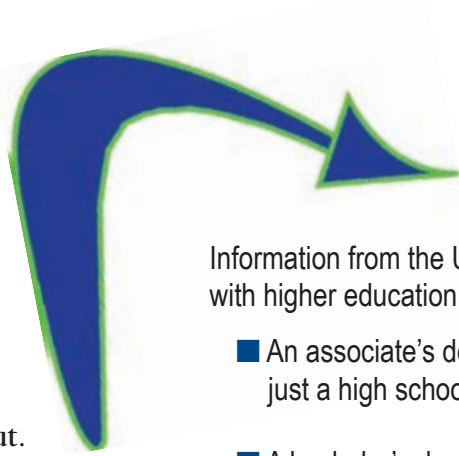


Education past high school can be as much or as little as you want! Trade school, technical school and a two-year or four-year college degree are all options past high school.

Going to school after graduation may be the last thing you want to hear about. But attending college after you earn your high school diploma increases your job opportunities, your earning power and your ability to enjoy a better life.

It's no puzzle. Get a bachelor's degree, and you can make \$15,500 a year **more** than your friends with just a high school diploma. Do the math: \$15,500 times a 30-year career equals nearly half a million dollars. Even if you don't like math, you have to love that!

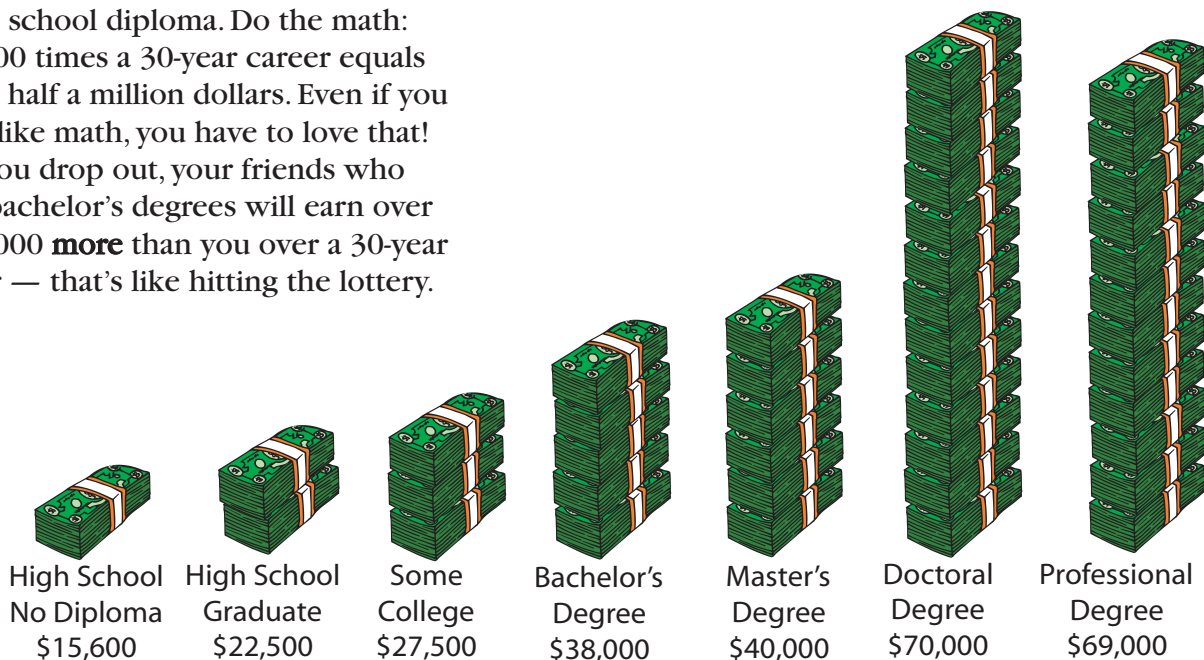
If you drop out, your friends who earn bachelor's degrees will earn over \$672,000 **more** than you over a 30-year career — that's like hitting the lottery.



pile it on

Information from the U.S. Census shows median earnings increase with higher education:

- An associate's degree can mean 22 percent more income than just a high school diploma.
- A bachelor's degree can mean 62 percent more income than just a high school diploma.
- A master's degree can mean 93 percent more income than just a high school diploma.



Median Earnings by Educational Level in Kentucky

(From American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, June 2004)

These piles of money could be yours, based on your level of education. They show the 2003 median earnings of people over age 25 who work year-round at a full-time job. A median is a middle value, so the number of people earning less than the median is equal to the number of people earning more than the median.

don't hold back

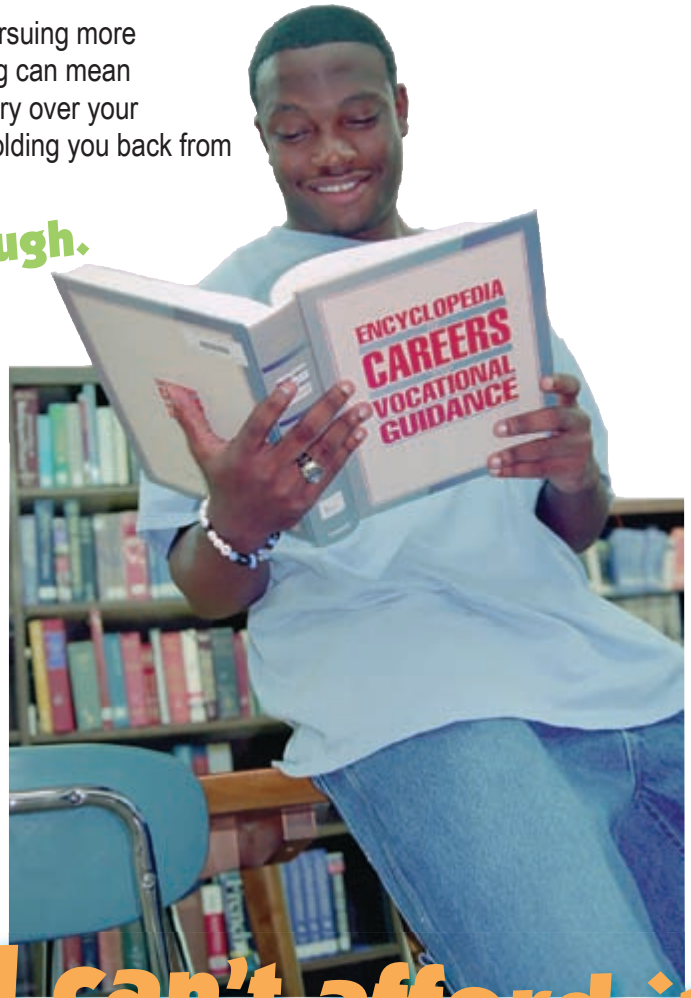
You already know pursuing more education or training can mean more money in salary over your lifetime. But what else is holding you back from a plan for your future?

My grades aren't good enough.

Good grades are important. The better your grades are, the better the chance you can get into the school and program of your choice. If your grades aren't the best, you still have time to bring them up.

Good grades can also mean money for college. As a Kentuckian, each year you make at least a 2.5 GPA, you earn a Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) award. See pages 8-9 for more information about KEES.

But colleges don't just look at grades and test scores when making admission decisions. Extracurricular activities, talent in arts or sports and community service can also play a part. So, not going to be the valedictorian next year? Plenty of successful college students weren't either!



I can't afford it.

Accentuate the negative... then consider the flip side!

If you know what you don't like, chances are you know what you **DO** like. Talk with people whose careers or jobs interest you, asking where they went to school and what they thought of the program they took. Ask your parents, guidance counselor or librarian for help in your career quest. Ask what school they attended. Develop a list of schools you are interested in and contact them for more information. What tests and qualifications are required for admission? Know your options!

Most college students and their families don't write a check for their college education. Financial aid is available and is based on your family's ability to pay for college. Besides, after looking at how much more an education can pay you over a lifetime, how can you **NOT** afford it? Talk with your high school guidance counselor. Read *Getting In*, a book KHEAA distributes to seniors. It lists admissions, costs, financial aid and academic program information for Kentucky colleges. You can also check out *Affording Higher Education*, a KHEAA book that lists nearly 4,000 financial aid sources available. Both books are available at kheaa.com.

Every plan has to have its first steps. Once you decide the general career direction you want to pursue, meet with your guidance counselor to discuss what classes you should take to fit into your higher education goals.



Are you on the right track?...

Review the following high school graduation requirements. The Precollege Curriculum is the **minimum** requirement for Kentucky bachelor's degree programs at public universities. Other schools may require more courses for admissions to certain programs, like engineering or nursing. If you're interested in a program of study not offered in Kentucky, you may want to check out the Academic Common Market on page 14.

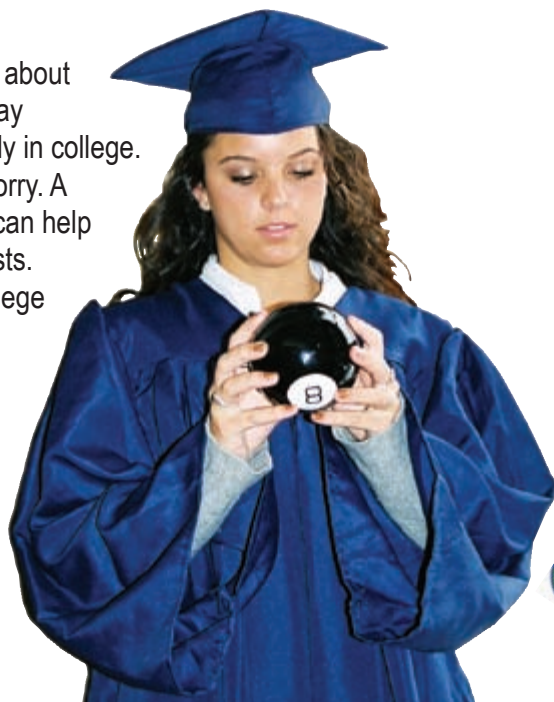
KENTUCKY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS		
Subject	Minimum Diploma Requirements Source: Kentucky Department of Education	Precollege Curriculum Source: Council on Postsecondary Education
Language Arts	4 credits: English I, II, III and IV	4 credits: English I, II, III and IV or AP English
Mathematics	3 credits: Algebra I, geometry and one elective	3 credits: Algebra I, II and geometry
Science	3 credits from the following content areas: Life science, physical science and earth/space science	3 credits: to include life science, physical science and earth/space science (at least one lab course)
Social Studies	3 credits from the following content areas: U.S. history, economics, government, world geography and world civilization	3 credits from U.S. history, economics, government, world geography and world civilization
Health	1/2 credit	1/2 credit
Physical Education	1/2 credit	1/2 credit
History and Appreciation of Visual and Performing Arts	1 credit: history and appreciation of visual and performing arts or another arts course that incorporates such content	1 credit: history and appreciation of visual and performing arts or another arts course that incorporates such content
Foreign Language		2 credits or demonstrated competency
Electives	7 credits	7 credits: (5 rigorous)*

* Rigorous electives should have academic content at least as challenging as that in courses required in the minimum high school graduation requirements. These electives also should be in social studies, science, math, English and language arts, arts and humanities, foreign language and above the introductory level in agriculture, industrial technology, business, marketing, family and consumer sciences, health sciences, and technology education and career pathways. Electives in physical education and health are limited to one-half unit each.

Ask yourself a lot of questions

Start thinking about what you may want to study in college.

No ideas? Don't worry. A college education can help narrow your interests. Although some college majors lead to a specific job, others are general enough to apply to many jobs.



Think now about what you may want to major in college. It can save time — and possibly money — in planning your higher education. Some college majors, like medicine, have a specific, strictly defined course load. Other majors, like journalism, are less structured but may require a smaller, focused course of study known as a minor.

Knowing the general major you want can also help with your college selection, since some programs at Kentucky colleges are nationally recognized or well-respected.



Major: A group of classes in one subject or field leading to a college degree and a career.

Like working with people or tending animals?

These interests could lead you to a major in veterinary science, agricultural education, equine management, wildlife biology or forestry and to a career as a vet, extension agent, horse trainer or park ranger.

Like writing for the school newspaper or yearbook?

These interests could lead you to major in journalism, marketing, graphic design, broadcasting or public relations and can lead to a career as a writer, advertising graphic designer, newscaster or public relations representative.

Like building with your hands?

These interests could lead to a major in a construction-related field and a career as an architect, furniture maker, electrician, plumber or builder. Check out a job-specific test like a mechanical ability or personality profile to help predict your success in a particular job.

Like solving math problems or using computers?

These interests could lead you to major in economics, biology, engineering or chemistry and can lead to a career as an economist, scientist, nuclear engineer or computer software designer.

Like playing in the band, taking photos or drawing?

These interests could lead to a major in art history, film, mass communications, philosophy, drama or foreign language and to a career as an artist, director, journalist, actor or translator.

Like adding numbers or organizing info?

These interests could lead you to major in mathematics, business, library science, engineering or computer science and to a career as a mathematician, business executive, librarian or mechanical engineer.

Dual credit courses count for both high school and college credit. They can save you time and money in pursuing your education goals, so they're worth checking out.

double dipping

CLEP program

The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) offers tests for subjects often taken during the first two college years. Many colleges use CLEP scores to award college credit. Some private industries, businesses and other groups use CLEP scores to satisfy requirements for licensing, advancement and admissions to training programs.

Commonwealth Diploma

A Commonwealth Diploma is awarded to seniors who complete 22 credit units, meet all minimum requirements of the Precollege Curriculum and get a grade of "C" or better in four Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in English, science and a foreign language, plus another AP/IB course. Students must also complete three AP or IB exams in those subject areas. These courses could also count as dual credit for both high school graduation and college. Check with **both** your high school guidance counselor and the colleges you are interested in attending for more information. AP or IB courses may also be available through the Kentucky Virtual High School, independent study or a college or university.

Institutional challenge exam

You can also take a test to prove you're proficient in a particular subject. If you can pass the test, you can get credit for the course without having taken (or even paid) for it. Ask the colleges you're considering if this option is available.

Tech classes

Interested in a technical field? You may want to take technical education classes offered at a Kentucky area technology center. Most Kentucky Tech credits will transfer to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS).



Don't trash your future!

Good grades give you the **KEES**

C⁺ That's the GPA (grade point average) you have to earn in a year to earn a Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES). Aim high and work hard, because you can earn more money for school with better grades. Here's how to get the bonus: Get a composite score of at least 15 on the ACT or 710 on the SAT. If you've gotten a C⁺ average at least one year, you can earn a bonus award ranging from \$36 to \$500.



KEES Award Amounts

GPA	Base Amount	ACT Score	Bonus Amount
2.50	\$125	15	\$ 36
2.60	150	16	71
2.70	175	17	107
2.75	187	18	143
2.80	200	19	179
2.90	225	20	214
3.00	250	21	250
3.10	275	22	286
3.20	300	23	321
3.25	312	24	357
3.30	325	25	393
3.40	350	26	428
3.50	375	27	464
3.60	400	28 or above	500
3.70	425		
3.75	437		
3.80	450		
3.90	475		
4.00	500		

Amounts may change based on funding.

How **MUCH?**

After each year of high school, KHEAA will notify you if you have earned a KEES award.

If you received KEES awards for your freshman and sophomore years, enter your final GPA and the award amounts on the line. Predict your GPA and highest ACT score for this year and your senior year for the remaining blanks. Add up your amounts, and you can estimate what your total award will be to help you pay for each year of college.

Freshman GPA _____	+ \$ _____
Sophomore GPA _____	+ \$ _____
Junior GPA _____	+ \$ _____
Senior GPA _____	+ \$ _____
Highest ACT Score _____	+ \$ _____

Total Estimated Award = \$ _____

kees to learning



KHEAA will post KEES awards online at the end of each school year. You will have to create a Zip Access user ID and password to access your data at kheaa.com for the first time. If you don't find a record or your data is incorrect, you should tell your guidance counselor.

For more info:

kheaa.com/keesfaqs.html
Write: KHEAA,
P.O. Box 798
Frankfort, KY 40602-0798

Call: (800) 928-8926,
extension 7395

How it works

- AP and IB courses are weighted for KEES purposes, meaning an A in those classes is worth 25 percent more than other courses.
- Taking both the ACT and the SAT? The highest ACT or SAT score you get on a test you take **before** you graduate will be used to determine your KEES award.
- Once you go to college, half of your annual KEES award will be sent after classes begin each semester. To get the full award, you must be enrolled full-time. But you'll have to keep your grades up! To keep your scholarship, you must earn a 2.5 cumulative GPA your first year in college and a 3.0 cumulative GPA afterwards to maintain a full award (if you earn between 2.5 and 2.99, you keep half). "Cumulative" means all the classes you've taken while in school, not just those in the last semester. That's why it's important to do your best every semester.



sharpen your chances

Sign up to take the PSAT/NMSQT in October at your high school. The PSAT may qualify you for a National Merit Scholarship, National Achievement Scholarship for Outstanding Negro Students and participation in the Governor's Scholars Program. Contact your guidance counselor to register. The College Board gives fee waivers for juniors from low-income families. Ask your counselor for more details.

Other tests you need to consider taking are the ACT and the SAT.

The ACT is required or accepted at all public universities and colleges and many private colleges and universities in Kentucky. SAT I and II are accepted at most private and public colleges.

Other schools you're interested in may require other tests.

Many students take the ACT, SAT I Reasoning Test and SAT II Subject Test once during their junior year. Ask your counselor about when to take the tests and if there are classes available to help you brush up on test-taking skills. Remember that your KEES bonus award is based on the highest ACT or SAT composite score you get on a test you take before you graduate.

Check application deadlines for your college picks. Two months is typically the time it takes to receive your scores, so plan ahead.

Why test now?



Many juniors begin testing this year.



You've probably already taken classes covered on the test.



You'll have your test scores early for college — and if you want to retest to boost your scores.



All of the above.

ACT:

Divided into four sections — English, math, reading and science reasoning — plus an optional written essay, the ACT is scored up to 36. The ACT is used in college admissions, awarding scholarships, and class placement, including honors programs. For more information, visit act.org/.

SAT:

The SAT Reasoning Test has four sections: critical reading, math, "equating" and essay. The equating section doesn't count toward your final score, but you won't know which section it is, so treat all sections equally. SAT II Subject Tests are one-hour exams given in specific subjects such as math, science, English or foreign languages. For more information, visit collegeboard.com/splash.

ASSET:

The ASSET is designed to measure strengths and needs in math, language, reading comprehension and study skills. A series of short placement tests, ASSET takes up to three hours to complete. This test is primarily used at community colleges. For more information, visit act.org/asset/index.html.

COMPASS:

The Computerized Adaptive Placement Assessment and Support System (COMPASS) is a series of tests in math, reading, writing skills and English as a second language that pinpoint strengths and weaknesses in particular areas. For more information, visit act.org/compass/index.html.

CPAT:

The Career Programs Assessment test measures basic language, reading and math skills in hour-long tests. Trade schools primarily use this test. For more information, visit act.org/cpat/index.html.

national testing dates

(subject to change)

Entrance/Placement Tests

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration ¹	Registration Fee ²
ACT	Saturdays: September 16, 2006 ³ October 28, 2006 December 9, 2006 February 10, 2007 April 14, 2007 June 9, 2007	August 18, 2006 September 22, 2006 November 3, 2006 January 5, 2007 March 9, 2007 May 4, 2007	August 19–25, 2006 Sept. 23–Oct. 6, 2006 Nov. 4–16, 2006 January 6–19, 2007 March 10–23, 2007 May 5–18, 2007	\$29 Late registration fee: Additional \$18
SAT Reasoning and SAT Subjects Tests	Saturdays⁴: October 14 2006 December 2, 2006 January 27, 2007 May 5, 2007 June 2, 2007	September 12, 2006 November 1, 2006 December 20, 2007 March 29, 2007 April 27, 2007	September 20, 2006 November 9, 2006 January 4, 2007 April 11, 2007 May 9, 2007	Check with your guidance counselor
SAT Reasoning and SAT Subjects Tests, includes language tests with listening	November 4, 2006	September 29, 2006	October 11, 2006	
SAT I only	March 10, 2007	February 2, 2007	February 14, 2007	
ASSET	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
COMPASS	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office
CPAt	At the school's discretion	Not applicable	Not applicable	Check with admissions office

Tests for College Credits

Test Name	Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration ¹	Registration Fee ²
AP	Monday-Friday⁶: May 7-11, 2007 May 14-18, 2007 Different subject each day, a.m. & p.m.	Check with your guidance counselor prior to April 1	Check with your guidance counselor	\$82 with \$22 fee reduction for low-income students
IB	External examinations for candidates for the IB diploma are given in May and November.	Check with your guidance counselor	Check with your guidance counselor	Check with your guidance counselor

¹ Additional fee required.

² Subject to change. Check websites (see page 10) for current fees. See your guidance counselor for information about fee waivers for students from low-income families.

³ Only available in Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Washington.

⁴ Sunday administration will occur the day after each Saturday administration except October Sunday test will be held October 22.

⁵ The Language Tests with Listening are offered in November only.

⁶ Students who want to take exams scheduled for the same time slot should ask their AP coordinator to call AP Services at 609.771.7300 for information about taking one of the exams on an alternate date.

what to do...

This is the year to stay on course in your pursuit of a college education. Planning your year can break up the many tasks you need to do so you aren't overwhelmed. Be aware of any deadlines — to register for national tests, to apply for the colleges you're interested in and to apply for scholarships. It's up to you!

August

- ▶ Start your year off right: Talk with your guidance counselor about your options and your plans. Be sure to ask about test dates for the PSAT, ACT and SAT. You'll need to register up to six weeks ahead of time. Get schedules and forms for the SAT I, SAT II, ACT and AP exams.
- ▶ Ask for a preview of your academic record and profile. Talk with your guidance counselor on how you can maximize your ability to get accepted at the school of your choice.
- ▶ Develop a list of colleges you're interested in. Check out *Getting In*, a KHEAA publication that lists all Kentucky colleges, universities and technical schools. Use pages 13–16 of *Getting In* to help narrow your choices.
- ▶ Sign up for courses with your eyes on the prize: college and money to pay for it! A tougher course load may pay off with scholarships and may get you a better chance to get admitted to the school of your choice.
- ▶ Start investigating private and public sources for financial aid. Take note of scholarship deadlines and plan accordingly.
- ▶ Sign up for activities to boost your college applications.

September

- ▶ Find out about schools you're interested in attending. Treat your school selection process like a research paper: Make a file and gather information about schools, financial aid and campus life to put in it. Go to college fairs and open houses and learn as much as you can from the Internet about schools.
- ▶ Begin planning college visits. Fall, winter and spring break are good times because you can observe a campus when classes are going on. This time next year, you could be there too!



...and when to do it



October

- ▶ Take the PSAT. You'll get the results by Christmas.
- ▶ Sign up for ACT or SAT prep courses.
- ▶ Do your top college picks require essays or recommendations? Now is the time to begin planning your essays and choosing whom you'd like to ask for a recommendation.

November

- ▶ Applications for the Governor's Scholars Program are available in your guidance counselor's office. The program offers high school juniors a taste of college life.
- ▶ Sign up for the ACT and SAT if you haven't already.

December

- ▶ Begin the application process for service academies (West Point, Annapolis, etc.)
- ▶ Decide if you should take AP exams in May. Investigate the CLEP program.

January

- ▶ Meet with your guidance counselor to develop your senior schedule.
- ▶ Register for the March SAT and/or the April ACT. Double check your college admission deadlines to make sure your scores will be in on time.

February

- ▶ Think about lining up a summer job, internship or co-op.
- ▶ Plan campus visits for spring break.

March/April

- ▶ Get ready for AP exams next month.
- ▶ Write a résumé.

May

- ▶ The first week in May is typically the deadline for students to accept or decline Governor's Scholars appointments.



Getting in to college begins with filling out an application for admission. Often, the earlier you apply, the better chance you have of being admitted. Plan ahead and pay attention to deadlines!

Checklist:

Early Decision

When you make a commitment to enroll in a college if you're admitted, it's called Early Decision. You must withdraw all of your other college applications and make a nonrefundable deposit early in the spring semester. Most Early Decision schools have a deadline between November 1 and December 1 and notify applicants by December 15. Contact the school you're interested in for more information. One possible disadvantage to Early Decision is that it may mean you don't have any leverage in negotiating a better financial aid package from the school you choose.

Early Action

When you learn early if you're admitted to a college, it's called Early Action. You don't have to commit to the college or make a deposit. Most colleges have a deadline between November 1 and December 1 and notify applicants by the end of January.

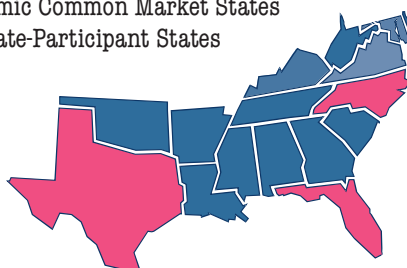
- ☐ Have your grades sent to the colleges you're interested in. If you list your top colleges on the ACT and SAT, your scores will automatically be sent to them.
- ☐ Get a housing application and send it in quickly for best consideration.
- ☐ Deposits: Learn how much, when they are due and deadlines for a refund if you decide not to attend.
- ☐ Does the college have a new student seminar? Sign up!
- ☐ Can you preregister for classes?
- ☐ Figure the cost of your meal plan into your budget.

Academic Common Market

You may be able to attend an out-of-state school without paying out-of-state tuition if the academic program you want isn't available at a Kentucky public university. The Council on Postsecondary Education must approve the program, which must be available from a college that participates in the ACM.

About 150 colleges from the following states participate in the ACM at the undergraduate and graduate levels: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Florida, North Carolina and Texas participate at the graduate level.

- Academic Common Market States
- Graduate-Participant States



how to go higher

Need help planning, preparing and paying for college or technical school? GoHigherKY.org is your one-stop way to find the information you want to know about higher education. You can find colleges you might be interested in attending based on your own preferences, plus a list of the classes you'll need to take in high school to qualify for them.

It's easy to navigate, so all you have to do is sign up and begin exploring what higher education in Kentucky has to offer you.

GoHigherKY.org can be used by students in grades 8-12, parents, college students, adult students and guidance counselors. Students can run free scholarship searches, transfer information to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), take virtual tours of colleges, find colleges that match their preferences and apply to colleges online.

The college planning section has checklists for students in grades 8-12. For juniors, the site provides a month-by-month list of actions college-bound students should take. The college planning section also lets students who have set up free accounts keep track of their courses and grades as they go through high school.



You're going to be spending a big chunk of time — not to mention money — at your chosen college. After you've narrowed your list to your top choices, it's time to hit the road to see if you and your college are a good match.

Get a game plan

High school juniors can plan to visit their top picks in the spring, but there's no reason not to pop in whenever you have time. Try to visit more than once if you're really having a hard time deciding. Many early decision deadlines fall soon after you begin your senior year, so begin now. Check out each college's website and review its catalog before you visit so you can fine-tune your questions. Be sure to check out the campus newspaper (either online or once you get there) to get a feel for what life may be like for students.

Make an appointment with each college so you can know the best time to visit, because many colleges offer programs for visiting students. You'll want to see the campus while classes are in session, but try to avoid mid-term or finals weeks. If you can, try to visit a class or talk with a professor in the major you're considering to get a feel for the program and its facilities. Take notes and ask lots of questions, keeping in mind how what you see and experience will translate into a successful college experience for you. Visit the financial aid office and discuss how the school determines eligibility for aid and when it makes decisions on financial aid packages.



Stuff you need to know:

What do I do if I need extra help in a class?
 How big are typical freshman/introductory classes?
 How much reading and writing is assigned the first year?
 Is the food good? (Eat a meal there and ask about meal payment plans.)
 How do you pick classes?
 How much time is there between classes?
 If I bring a car, where will I park?
 What's the most popular major on campus?
 Where are the freshman dorms in relation to the rest of campus? Try to visit one: Is it cramped, noisy or studious?



Stuff you'll want to know:

What's access like to computer labs?
 Who will teach my classes: full-time faculty or graduate students?
 What kind of extracurricular activities are available — athletics, drama, band, clubs, yearbook, debate team, etc.?
 How much does it cost to do laundry?
 What happens if I get sick and need medical attention?
 What's the social scene like, both on and off campus?
 What are the most common crimes on campus? How many crimes are there?
 If you plan to start work when you finish your academic program, find out how many of the school's graduates get jobs in their chosen fields.
 If you plan to earn a degree beyond a bachelor's, find out how successful the school's graduates are at getting in — and completing — graduate school, dental school, law school or medical school.

Stuff you probably don't need to know:

Names of campus buildings

(at least while you're visiting). But you can always get a map and learn it by the time you enroll!

How many books there are in the library

You only need to know this if you plan to read them all. Instead, ask about access: Are they returned regularly so others can use them?





scams

Dear JANE DOE,

Direct mail: A growing financial aid ploy

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) receives many complaints about companies that use direct mail and oral sales presentations to tout their ability to find financial aid. Typically, you are asked to confirm “an appointment” at a nearby hotel using the Internet or a toll-free number. If you go, you and your parents will most likely be asked to sign up for the company’s program — which often costs more than a thousand dollars. You’re better off saving that money for college.

Suspect Fraud? How to report it to the FTC

The FTC works to prevent fraudulent, deceptive and unfair business practices and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint or to get free information on any of 150 consumer topics, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357), or use the complaint form at ftc.gov.

Most information about scholarships you may qualify for is available for free on the Internet, from your guidance counselor or from the financial aid office of the college you plan to attend. Be careful about spending **any** money trying to track down sources of financial aid. Most college-bound students receive a variety of student aid, tailored to their family’s particular financial situation. Don’t let someone scare you into thinking you or your parents can’t get all the aid you may qualify for: that’s best left up to financial aid offices.

Don’t fall prey to a con artist

Companies may charge hundreds of dollars to give you a list of scholarships, match you with a college or help you boost your ACT or SAT scores. That’s money better spent paying for college. With a little detective work, you can find financial aid sources yourself.

Your guidance counselor should have a copy of KHEAA’s publication *Affording Higher Education*, which lists nearly 4,000 financial aid sources for Kentucky students. After talking with your counselor, contact the financial aid office of each college you’re interested in to discuss its particular financial aid programs.

You should also attend any free financial aid workshops sponsored by your high school, local colleges or the Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, such as College Goal Sunday. Don’t confuse free events with events sponsored by companies offering services for a fee.

The Internet can also be a valuable resource tool for free scholarship sources, but beware of sites that ask for a credit card number. Some free scholarship search sites are listed at kheaa.com/101_schol.html and GoHigherKy.org.

Remember: websites aren’t regulated by anyone. A scam artist can set up a great-looking site, rake in the money and then shut down.

Common Cons

The FTC cautions students to be especially skeptical about companies and websites that claim:

“The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back.”

Read the fine print. To get a refund, you may have to receive a letter of rejection from **every** source on your list. That may be impossible to do if a scholarship on your list is no longer offered. Some companies have been known to give out sources they know don't exist so you can't get a response. The fine print may state that **all** types of student financial aid are included, so if you get a loan but no scholarships, you can't get your money back.

“You can't get this information anywhere else.”

Nearly all the information can be found by working with your guidance counselor and college financial aid officer, visiting your high school or public library or doing your own online scholarship search.

“I just need your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship.”

Never give these numbers to a person or company you're not sure about. Someone with your credit card number can charge something to your card, and someone with your bank account number can make withdrawals — without your knowledge.



That's why it's called FREE!

The U.S. Education Department (ED) and the FTC remind students that there is **NO** fee to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can get free help with applying for financial aid from ED, high school counselors and college financial aid administrators. ED's materials are available at ed.gov/studentaid or by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243; TTY: 1-200-730-8913). The FTC's materials are available at ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/scholarship/index. Scholarship information is also available on the FTC's Spanish language website, ftc.gov/bcp/menu-jobs.htm#espanol.

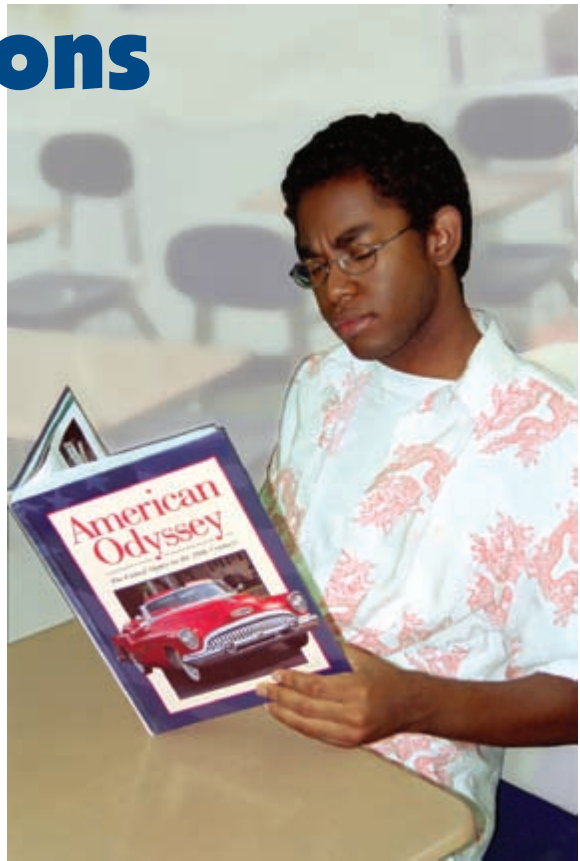


You should **never** spend more than the cost of a first-class stamp for financial aid information.

decisions, decisions

Kentucky has a full range of options when it comes to schools: public universities, private schools, community colleges and trade schools. What's best for you depends on your goals. The following pages can help you develop a list of schools you're interested in. Don't forget to consider campus life as well as academics in making your decision.

Compare schools



Public Universities

Programs generally are four years and lead to bachelor's degrees. Universities offer more choices for degrees and majors, have bigger libraries for research and can be a good bargain. Some universities also offer two-year programs.

Private Schools

Programs are similar to that of state universities, but at independent colleges and universities, class sizes are usually smaller and you get more personal attention from professors. Many are affiliated with a particular church and offer church-related programs.

Public two-year colleges

You may want to continue your education at one of the state's community and technical colleges. You can follow several paths there. One leads to an associate's degree that prepares you for finishing a bachelor's degree. Other paths prepare you for entering the workforce. These can take from six months to two years to complete. Courses you take at community and technical colleges can transfer to a four-year college for credit if you want a bachelor's degree.



Trade Schools

Trade schools are privately owned schools offering specialized training in everything from cosmetology to medical assistance training. Some schools only offer one specialty; others have many. Some trade schools also offer programs leading to associate degrees.

A big advantage of going this route is that you can usually find a two-year school near you, meaning you can save money by living at home.



decisions, decisions



It's time to compare the schools you're considering. Gather as much information about each school as you can and list it on the chart on page 22. You need to evaluate each school based on what getting an education there can do for you after graduation. Higher education is a significant investment in your future, so plan wisely. Base your final decision on:

- Your educational and career goals.
- School evaluation chart on page 22.
- Costs.
- Available financial aid.

Degree programs available at Kentucky schools include:

Certificate: A 6- to 15-month program typically in a vocational or technical area to prepare for a job in a specific career.

Diploma: A program lasting up to 2 years in a vocational or technical area to prepare for a job in a specific career.

Associate: Up to a 3-year associate program in applied science (AAS) or applied technology (AAT) in tech majors meant to lead directly to a job. Typically, courses do not transfer to a 4-year degree. Or, up to a 3-year program of associate of arts (AA) or science (AS) in programs that can transfer to 4-year colleges and lead to a bachelor's degree.

Bachelor's: 4 to 5 years, including general education, a major and electives leading to degrees like a bachelor of arts (BA) degree in the humanities and arts or a bachelor of science (BS) degree in the natural sciences or professional/technical fields.

Master's: A bachelor's degree plus at least 1 year. Most people getting a degree beyond a bachelor's will first get a master's degree. In Kentucky, public school teachers are required to have a master's degree.

Doctorate: Bachelor's degree plus 3 or more years in a program of courses, independent research and a formal presentation or dissertation.





decisions, decisions

School Evaluation

School name:			
Internet address:			
Visit date scheduled:			
General information			
Type of school:			
Accredited by:			
Licensed by:			
My program of study:			
Degrees offered:			
Enrollment:			
Location:			
Admission requirements:			
Student-teacher ratio:			
Up-to-date facilities and technology:			
Success of previous graduates in licensing/job force:			
Job placement/Career office:			
Graduation starting salary in my program:			
Will credits transfer to another school?			
What if school closes or discontinues my program? Call the Better Business Bureau to see if the school has a problem past.			
Costs			
Tuition, plus any fees (if applicable):			
Room and board:			
Books and supplies:			
Personal expenses:			
Transportation:			
Other expenses:			
Total for school year:			
Refund policy?			
Financial Aid			
Types of aid available:			
Is it approved for federal and state financial aid programs?			
Required applications:			
Does the school have a low student loan default rate? Call the U.S. Department of Education at (800) 433- 3243 to check. A high default rate may be a warning sign.			
Other factors:			
Pros:			
Cons:			

Below is a listing of the main campuses of Kentucky schools, showing the location of each by county. You can determine the types of schools near you by looking at the symbols in each county of the Kentucky map.



■ Four-Year Public Universities

County*

Eastern Kentucky University.....	Madison
Kentucky State University.....	Franklin
Morehead State University.....	Rowan
Murray State University.....	Calloway
Northern Kentucky University.....	Campbell
University of Kentucky.....	Fayette
University of Louisville.....	Jefferson
Western Kentucky University.....	Warren

✚ Four-Year Private Nonprofit

Colleges and Universities

County

Alice Lloyd College.....	Knott
Asbury College.....	Jessamine
Bellarmino University.....	Jefferson
Berea College.....	Madison
Brescia University.....	Daviess
Campbellsville University.....	Taylor
Centre College.....	Boyle
University of the Cumberlands.....	Whitley
Embry-Riddle University.....	Christian, Hardin
Georgetown College.....	Scott
Indiana Wesleyan University.....	Jefferson
Kentucky Christian University.....	Carter
Kentucky Mountain Bible College.....	Breathitt
Kentucky Wesleyan College.....	Daviess
Lindsey Wilson College.....	Adair
McKendree College.....	Jefferson
Mid-Continent University.....	Graves
Midway College.....	Woodford
Northwood University.....	Jefferson
Pikeville College.....	Pike
St. Catharine College.....	Washington
Spalding University.....	Jefferson

Thomas More College.....	Kenton
Transylvania University.....	Fayette
Union College.....	Knox

● Four-Year Private For-Profit College

County

Sullivan University.....	Jefferson
--------------------------	-----------

▼ Two-Year Public Colleges

County

Ashland Community and Technical College.....	Boyd
Big Sandy Community and Technical College.....	Floyd, Johnson
Bluegrass Community and Technical College.....	Fayette
Bowling Green Technical College.....	Warren
Elizabethtown Community and Technical College.....	Hardin
Gateway Community and Technical College.....	Kenton
Hazard Community and Technical College....	Perry
Henderson Community College.....	Henderson
Hopkinsville Community College.....	Christian
Jefferson Community and Technical College.....	Jefferson
Madisonville Community College.....	Hopkins
Maysville Community and Technical College.....	Mason
Owensboro Community and Technical College.....	Daviess
Somerset Community College.....	Pulaski
Southeast Community and Technical College.....	Harlan
West Kentucky Community and Technical College.....	McCracken

*County refers to where school has its main Kentucky campus

invest in yourself

Tune in to financial aid

Higher education can be expensive, but it's also an investment in your future.

Financial aid programs are available to help with college costs. Awards are based on financial need as well as achievements in academics, athletics, music or other special talents.

**Tell your parents
— the earlier
you file the
FAFSA, the
more money
may be
available!**

Don't rule out a school because you think you can't afford it. Depending on financial aid packages offered, you may pay the same amount to attend a more expensive college as you'd pay for a less expensive school.

Your financial need is calculated based on information you and your parents report about your family's income and assets on the FAFSA. All colleges require the FAFSA to determine your level of need and eligibility for several major state and federal aid programs.

The best source of information about student aid is the financial aid office at the school you plan to attend. Check with a financial aid officer to make sure you've completed all required applications.

Costs for most Kentucky colleges will be available in the 2006–2007 edition of *Getting In*, which you'll receive your senior year (you can check this year's costs in the 2005–2006 edition). For an out-of-state school, check the school's website, *The College Cost Book* or *The College Handbook*, published by the College Board, in your school library or counselor's office.

Get up-to-date cost information directly from the school you plan to attend.



How Financial Need is calculated

Total annual cost:



— Minus **E**xpected
Family
Contribution*

= Your financial need

*(**EFC**: what the federal government says your family should be able to pay. It's based on a formula set by Congress.)

Financial Aid Primer

■ **Grants:**

Money that generally doesn't have to be repaid. (If you fail to enroll, withdraw or change enrollment status, you may have to return some or all of the grant.) Grants are usually based on financial need.

■ **Scholarships:**

Money that doesn't have to be repaid. Scholarships are usually based on skill, a talent or achievement.

■ **Tuition Waivers:**

A deal offered at some schools to reduce or waive some costs if you meet certain qualifications.

■ **Conversion scholarships/loans:**

Loans or scholarships requiring you to work for a certain amount of time after finishing a specified academic program or pay back the money **plus** interest.

■ **Work-study:**

You work part-time on or off campus to help pay the cost of your education.

■ **Student Loans:**

Borrowed money that must be repaid with interest.

■ **Military benefits:**

Financial assistance available to people (or to their children) who have performed military service or are preparing to enter the U.S. armed forces.

■ **Prepaid Tuition:**

A contract guaranteeing fully paid tuition for a fixed number of credit hours at a participating school. You have to pay a certain amount up front.

Financial Aid Q&A

What is need-based financial aid?

Aid to help pay school costs when you can prove your financial need.

Who gives financial aid?

Schools, state and federal governments, businesses and private organizations provide financial aid. But you and your family must pay as much as you can toward your expenses.

How is financial aid awarded?

It's awarded based on financial need (need-based aid) or academic achievement, athletics or other talents (merit-based aid). Most financial aid is need-based but is often awarded in combination with merit-based awards.

Who develops the financial aid process?

Generally, your school's financial aid office develops your financial aid package. A financial aid package is typically a combination of grants, scholarships, work-study and/or loans and depends on available funding.

Where can I get financial aid information?

Free financial aid information can come from your guidance counselor, the financial aid officer of the school(s) you're interested in attending and KHEAA's website kheaa.com.

How do I apply?

If you're going to a public or private college, university, technical college or trade school, you must file the FAFSA to be considered for an award from the following major state and federal student financial aid programs: Kentucky Tuition Grant, College Access Program Grant, Federal Stafford Loan, Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal SMART Grant, Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant, Federal Work-Study and Federal Perkins Loan.

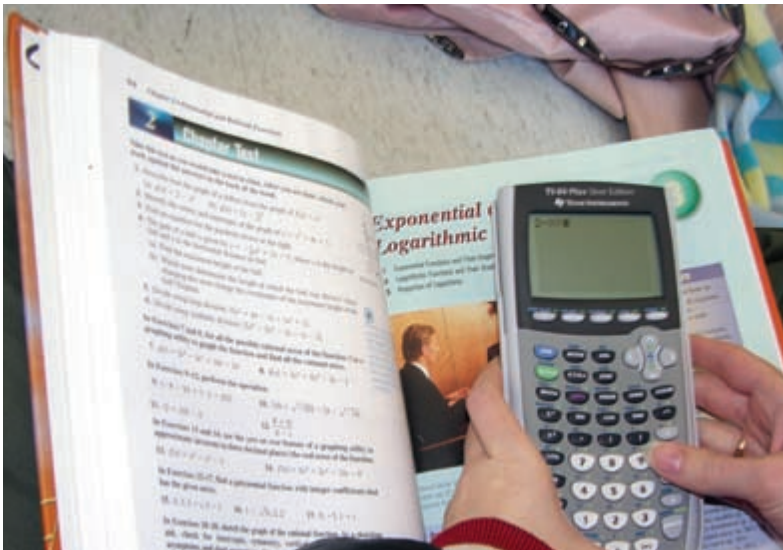
Check with the school you plan to attend to find out if other application forms are required. [Read the instructions on all forms carefully and follow them to the letter.](#)

Financial Aid

Q&A

How much can I get?

Good question. Not an easy answer. It works like this: the school has a total cost of attendance (COA) based on tuition, books, room and board, supplies and personal costs. The information on the FAFSA is used to calculate your expected family contribution (EFC), which is how much the federal government says your family should be able to pay. (The federal government is involved because it provides billions of dollars in student aid every year.) The college then takes the EFC and subtracts it from the COA. This shows how much financial aid you need. The aid you get from need-based programs can't be more than what this formula says you need.



Estimate your EFC Online

You can use KHEAA's online interactive College Aid Calculator to get an estimate of how much financial aid you might receive and how much you and your parents might be expected to pay toward college costs. The calculator provides only an *estimated* EFC. The exact EFC for each student applies for federal and state financial aid is derived by filling out the FAFSA. You should make the school's financial aid office aware of any special circumstances that may affect your need for assistance. The calculator, developed for KHEAA by Think Ahead Inc., can be found at kheaa.com/cac/cac72kheaaStart.html.



FAFSA Tips

■ Apply Early

Submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1 your senior year. Students who file early have the **best** chance of getting financial aid. Your parents must have their tax return done to complete the FAFSA.

■ Expected Family Contribution

Financial information from the FAFSA is used to determine what you and your family should reasonably be expected to contribute toward your yearly school costs. The formula, set by Congress, considers your family income, current assets and expenses.

■ Qualifications

Reapply each year you attend college. Factors regulating financial aid change. Just because you're not eligible one year doesn't mean you won't be eligible the next.

■ Satisfactory Academic progress

To continue receiving aid under some programs, you must make progress toward a degree or certificate according to your college's policy. Your school will consider your college grades and the number of credit hours attempted in figuring your progress. By the time you are a sophomore, you must have a "C" average or be on track to graduate, according to your school.

Financial Aid Primer

■ Enrollment Contract:

Schools use this to explain what you can expect for your money. Read it carefully before you sign it. A representative may make promises that aren't on the contract, like help finding a job. If someone makes a promise to you, ask the representative to write it on the contract, sign and date it. A school can add a page to the contract and title it "Addendum to (name of contract.)" A promise is usually not enforceable in court unless it's in writing.

■ Federal Family Education Loans/Federal Direct Loans:

Federal Family Education Loans are student loans made by lenders such as The Student Loan People and generally insured by state or private, nonprofit entities such as KHEAA. Your loan application is certified and your loan is disbursed through your school.

Federal Direct Loans are financed by the U.S. Department of Education using funds it borrows from the U.S. Treasury. The program is administered by your school. By law, interest rates, fees and other loan details are generally the same for both programs.



Financial Aid Q&A

When will I know my financial aid package?

If you apply by April, you should be notified during the late spring or early summer.

What loan should I get?

The type of loans available to you depend on the school you attend. Each school participating in a student loan program has an agreement with the federal government to offer Federal Family Education Loans and/or Federal Direct Loans. Check with your school's financial aid office for more information or check the financial aid section for your top school choices in *Getting In*, a KHEAA publication you will receive as a senior.

When do I pay for school?

Most schools require you to pay tuition and fees no later than the first day or week of each term. Any financial aid package you receive will be applied to your tuition bill. Many schools have payment plans to allow you to pay installments on your tuition. Check with your top schools for extension and payment plan information.

Can I get financial aid every year?

Usually. You must reapply each year and meet the renewal requirements. Typical requirements are:

- Maintaining a minimum GPA.
- Advancing to the next grade level.
- Limiting the total number of years aid can be received.
- Maintaining full-time or half-time status.

Before you transfer to another college, be sure to check your financial aid status!

Financial Aid

Q&A

What's a lender?

The lender is the institution that loans you money to attend school. It can be a bank, a nonprofit state corporation, a credit union or some other financial institution.

What does principal mean?

Principal is the actual amount you borrow before origination and default fees are deducted from the amount credited to your student aid account. The interest you are charged is based on the principal.

How do I compare lenders?

Check out KHEAA's website to see up-to-date comparisons of top Kentucky school loan lenders and the benefits they provide at kheaa.com/borrbenefits.html. You can also visit individual lenders' websites.

Can you give me examples of borrower benefits?

Lenders may have different programs of borrower benefits that can save you money. For example, some lenders don't charge fees to begin a loan application for you (commonly called origination fees). Another commonly offered borrower benefit is getting a break on the interest you will pay back after you graduate.

Choosing a lender can be one of the most important decisions you'll make when borrowing money to pay for school.

Many colleges provide a lender list for your consideration. However, as a borrower, **you** make the ultimate decision on which lender to use.

Be sure to compare different benefits to get the best, low-cost loan available to you.

You can compare lenders and their benefits at kheaa.com/borrbenefits.html.



Student Loan Primer

■ Borrower benefits

Price breaks on the cost of a student loan through reduced fees. Fees are deducted before your costs are paid so more money is available to pay for your education.

Some examples of fees are:

○ Federal default fees

These fees — up to 1 percent of your loan — are charged to you as insurance by a guarantor to ensure you pay your loan. Guarantors promise lenders they will pay off loans in special circumstances.

○ Origination fees

These fees — up to 3 percent — help cover the costs the lender pays doing business with you.

After you graduate, lenders may offer interest rate breaks for automatic payment deductions, making a certain number of payments on time or entering a certain profession. Some times, lenders not only offer interest rate breaks, but also will give you credit on your student loan.

■ Interest

The money you pay the lender for borrowing money for school. It's just like interest charged for a car, credit card or house, only it's generally lower.

applying for aid

Completing the FAFSA

If you need financial aid to help pay for school, the most important step is completing the FAFSA. It must be filed to apply for KHEAA grants and several other major state and federal aid programs. If the FAFSA is properly completed, the financial aid information you and your family provide will automatically be sent to KHEAA and the schools you list. Filling it out online at fafsa.ed.gov is fast, free and reduces errors. Plus, your parents can upload their financial information from their online tax return if they file electronically.



How the FAFSA works for your financial aid:

College financial aid offices use information you submit on the FAFSA to determine if you're eligible for need-based financial aid. Schools will determine how much and for what type of aid you are eligible. The office will then develop a financial aid package for you, based on your eligibility and how much money is available. Each school you list on the FAFSA will notify you of its financial aid decision in late spring or early summer.

KHEAA uses information you submit on the FAFSA to determine grant awards. You will be sent grant notices from KHEAA to check kheaa.com to learn about your grant eligibility for all schools you list on the FAFSA.

Helpful hints

Read and follow the FAFSA instructions **very carefully.**

- Submit the FAFSA as soon as possible after January 1 of your senior year (after your parents fill out their income taxes) to make sure you have the best chance of receiving all the aid you might qualify for.

Keep copies of your FAFSA.

If asked to make corrections or supply more information, **do so as soon as possible.**

applying for aid

What you need

- Your and your parents' income tax returns for the year before you plan to go to college. For the 2007–2008 school year, you will need information from 2006.
- Your Social Security card and driver's license.
- Your and your parents' W-2 forms.
- Records of other untaxed income such as Social Security benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or veteran's benefits.
- Current bank statements and records of stocks, bonds or other investments.
- Business or farm records, if applicable.
- Your alien registration card if you are not a U.S. citizen.
- A blank diskette if you are applying using *FAFSA on the Web*. You will need it to save your data.

Where to find
the FAFSA

fafsa.ed.gov

A paper FAFSA is available from:

High school counselors and college financial aid offices or by calling the ED toll free (800) 433-3243. If you want to be notified when your paper application is received, fill out and put a stamp on the postcard provided in the FAFSA packet and return it with your application. When it is received, the FAFSA processor will stamp the card with the receipt date and location and mail it back to you.



Reaching the Goal

College Goal Sunday will be held on January 28, 2007. Members of the Kentucky Association of Financial Aid Administrators (KASFAA) will be on hand at sites across Kentucky to help students and parents complete the FAFSA. Check the KASFAA website at kasfaa.com or watch your mailbox, local newspaper or guidance office bulletin board for more information.



major financial aid

Programs:

What they are and who qualifies

The major student financial aid programs, divided into category types, are outlined on the following pages. The required application for many of these programs is the FAFSA. (See pages 30–31 for more information on the FAFSA). Due to the ever-changing climate of student financial aid, programs may be discontinued or their eligibility or awards changed. For the most up-to-date information, check with your high school counselor's office or your school's financial aid office. For more information about KHEAA's programs, call (800) 928-8926 or visit KHEAA's website kheaa.com. KHEAA awards millions of dollars each year to thousands of Kentucky students.



GRANTS

College Access Program (CAP) Grant

Administered
by:



CAP Grants are awarded to financially needy Kentucky undergraduates who attend public and private universities, trade schools and colleges. They are also awarded to students enrolled in two-year academic programs. To be eligible, students must be enrolled six semester hours or half-time as determined by the school. CAP recipients must have an expected family contribution (EFC) of \$3,850 or less, based on information on the FAFSA. The maximum award amount for the 2006–2007 academic year is \$1,900.

Kentucky Tuition Grant (KTG)

Administered
by:



KTG awards help financially needy Kentucky students attend the state's private colleges. You must be a full-time undergraduate enrolled in a qualifying associate's or bachelor's degree program. The KTG award amount is based on total cost of education (tuition and fees plus low room rate and high board rate) minus the sum of the EFC, expected Pell Grant and expected CAP Grant. For the 2006–2007 academic year, KTG awards range from \$200 to \$2,900.

major financial aid

Academic Competitiveness Grant

Academic Competitiveness grants are awarded to first and second year college students. To be eligible students must have completed a rigorous secondary school program of study established by a state or local educational agency and recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, qualify for Federal Pell Grants, be a U.S. citizen and must be enrolled or accepted as a full-time student at a two- or four-year degree granting institution of higher learning. First-year students must have graduated high school after January 1, 2006. Second-year students must have graduated high school after January 1, 2005, and have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in college. For the 2006–2007 academic year first-year students may be eligible to receive up to \$750 and second-year students may be eligible to receive up to \$1,300.

Federal Pell Grant

This grant helps undergraduate students and some graduate students pay for college. The U.S. Department of Education determines eligibility based on information you and your parents provide on the FAFSA and a formula set up by Congress. The maximum award for the 2006–2007 award year is \$4,050.

National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant

SMART grants are awarded to third and fourth year college students. To be eligible students must qualify for Federal Pell Grants; be a U.S. citizen; be enrolled as a full-time student at a four-year degree granting institution of higher learning, be a mathematics, science (including physical, life and computer sciences), technology, engineering or a critical foreign language major; and have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA. For the 2006–2007 academic year, students may be eligible to receive up to \$4,000.



major financial aid

SCHOLARSHIPS

Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES)

Good grades and high ACT scores can earn you money for college with KEES. You can earn money each year of high school based on your GPA and a bonus award based on your highest ACT (or equivalent SAT) composite score.

Administered by:



CONVERSION SCHOLARSHIPS/LOANS

Teacher Scholarship

If you want to teach in Kentucky, you may qualify for a Teacher Scholarship.

Administered by:

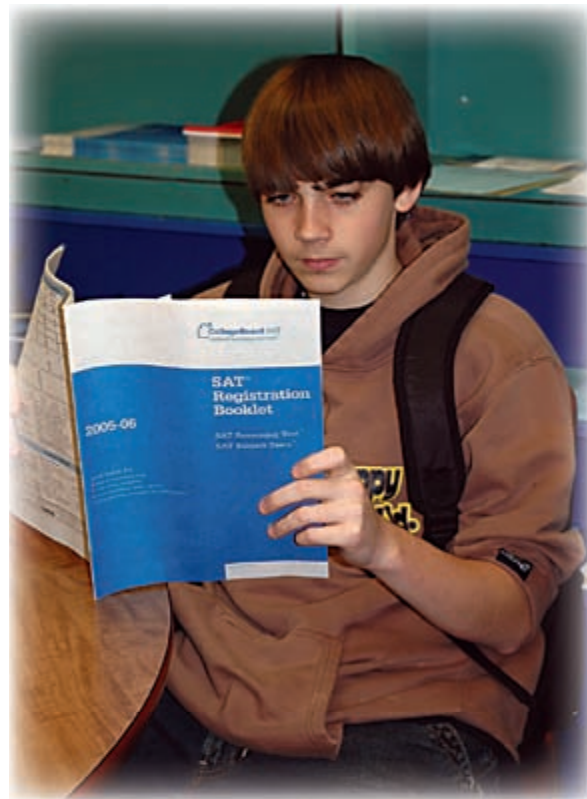


You must be a Kentucky resident enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student. If you don't complete your certification or required teaching service, you must repay the scholarship with interest.

Osteopathic Medicine Scholarship

This scholarship helps students attend Pikeville College's School of Osteopathic Medicine. If you don't complete the program or don't practice in Kentucky, you must repay the scholarship with interest.

Administered by:



FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOANS

Federal Stafford Loan

College students can get subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans to attend eligible colleges and schools at least half-time.

You must show financial need to qualify for the **subsidized loan**. The federal government pays the interest on subsidized loans while you are in school and for six months after you're no longer attending at least half-time. You don't have to show financial need for an **unsubsidized loan**, but you either need to pay interest or have it added to the principal.

Federal PLUS Loan

Your parents or stepparents can borrow money to help pay your college expenses with a PLUS Loan. You must be enrolled at least half-time at an eligible school. Graduate and professional students may also apply for a PLUS Loan.

major financial aid

WORK-STUDY

KHEAA Work-Study Program (KWSP)

The Work-Study Program allows students to work to supplement their financial aid package while attending approved Kentucky schools. You will be paid at least minimum wage. You can earn only the amount determined by your financial need.

Administered
by:



SAVINGS AND PREPAID TUITION PROGRAMS

Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust (KESPT)

KESPT is a plan for adults to save for your higher education. Parents can deposit as little as \$25 (or \$15 through payroll deduction). For more information, call toll free (877) KY TRUST (598-7878) or visit kysaves.com.

Administered
by:



Kentucky's Affordable Prepaid Tuition (KAPT)

KAPT is a prepaid tuition account which guarantees investments will cover future tuition costs under the plan purchased. For more information, visit getKAPT.com or call toll free (888) 919-KAPT (5278).

Administered
by:



Other Financial Aid Programs

Additional federal aid is available in the form of grants and other types of loans. Nearly all colleges also offer their own scholarships and grants, as do many local businesses and organizations. Also, check out ***Getting In*** and ***Affording Higher Education***, two KHEAA publications listing other sources of financial aid. To find them, ask your counselor, find them online at kheaa.com or hit the library.

tilting the wheel



Financial Aid in your favor

There are many things you can do to increase your chances of getting all the financial aid you may qualify for to help pay for your higher education. The financial aid experts from KHEAA offer the following tips.

Talk with your guidance counselor

Your guidance counselor should be your first resource in your college financial aid search. Ask about financial aid in general and where to look for help.

Make the grades

Good grades can mean you earn money through the KEES program for classes after high school. The better grades you make, the more money you earn to help pay for college. Better grades will help you qualify for other scholarships and grants.

Talk with a financial aid administrator

Contact the financial aid office of the schools you listed on your school evaluation chart on page 22. A financial aid official can tell you about aid programs available at that school, commonly known as institutional aid.

Visit kheaa.com

KHEAA's website features information about KHEAA financial aid programs and services including:

- ☐ Detailed information about the KEES program.
- ☐ Publications, including *Affording Higher Education*, which lists nearly 4,000 sources of college aid for Kentucky students administered by Kentucky schools, state and federal governments and Kentucky companies and organizations. It is also available at your counselor's office and public libraries.
- ☐ An interactive College Aid Calculator to estimate how much financial aid you might receive and how much your family might be expected to pay toward college costs.
- ☐ Links to other financial aid sites.
- ☐ E-mail links to KHEAA's financial aid programs.
- ☐ Information about your KHEAA grant, loan and KEES award.

Read up on free aid

Read *Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid*, a U.S. Department of Education handbook on financial aid. You can find a copy at the public library, your counselor's office or online at <http://studentaid.ed.gov/students/attachments/siteresources/StudentGuide.pdf>. You can also call the Federal Student Aid Information Center at (800) 4FED-AID (433-3243) or visit ed.gov.

Make contacts

If you know you want to enter a particular profession, chances are there is a professional association that may have financial aid available. Use the Web or an association directory to get addresses to write for more information.

tilting the wheel

Be a newshound

Watch for news items in your local paper for scholarships offered by local community service organizations, businesses, clubs, unions, churches, fraternal groups, etc., and contact them for more information.

Scout out your community

Check with community organizations and civic groups like the American Legion, YMCA, 4-H Club, Kiwanis, Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, and Boy or Girl Scouts. Foundations, religious organizations, fraternities or sororities, and town or city clubs are some other possible sources of aid.

Visit nasfaa.org

The website of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators includes the full text of the publications *Academics: You Can Do It*, *Financial Aid: You Can Afford It* and *Cash for College*. It also links to many related sites and can lead you to information about scholarships, scams and personal finances.

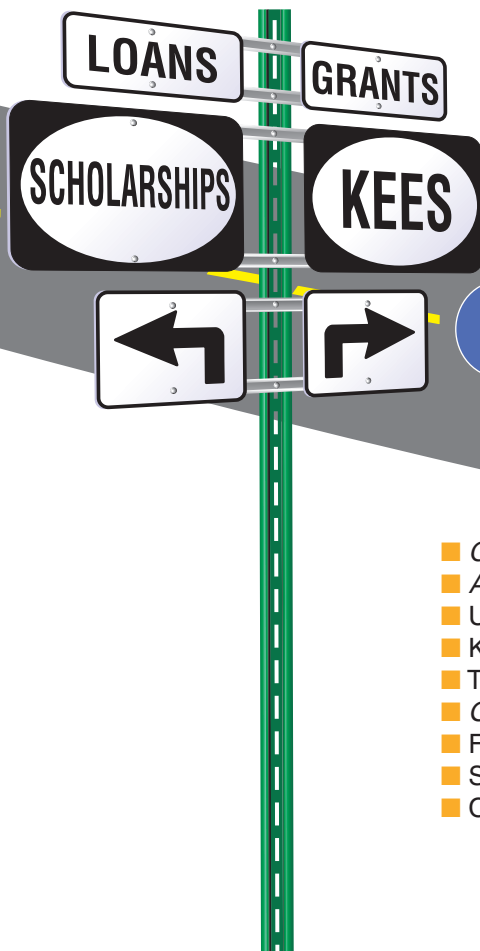
Learn about low-interest loans

First, you should seek financial aid you don't have to repay. Most financial aid packages prepared by schools contain student loans. The largest student loan program in Kentucky is the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). KHEAA administers FFELP, which includes Federal Stafford Loans and Federal PLUS Loans. (See page 38 for more information on loans). These loans have low interest rates and long-term repayment options. Lenders may also offer discounted fees and interest rates.



hitting the road

KHEAA's College Info Road Show goes all over the state to teach students about career, college and financial aid options. The College Info Road Show, an interactive mobile classroom, helps students jump start their future with high-speed Internet access, including the ability to view GoHigherKY.org. Other materials, helpful college and career resources and financial aid applications are available onboard. Watch for the free College Info Road Show in your community!



Onboard Resources

- *Getting In: Your Guide to Higher Education*
- *Affording Higher Education*
- U.S. Department of Education publications
- KHEAA-The Student Loan People's "The College Circuit" booklet.
- The College Board Publications
- *Occupational Outlook Handbook*
- Financial aid applications
- Scholarship searches
- Career assessments

hitting the road



The mobile college consultant

The College Info Road Show is on the road and online with high-speed satellite Internet access.

Not sure what you want to do in the future? Use the College Info Road Show's onboard career assessment to generate a personalized list of possible jobs tailor-made to your interests. You may be surprised to learn your ideal career is based on your lifelong hobbies.

You can also search for a school that will help you get the education you need to pursue your future.

Interested in a large university on an urban campus? Prefer a small rural setting? Want to get as far away as possible from Mom and Dad? Use GoHigherKy.org to compare schools. Financial aid resources, such as scholarships, grants and loans, can also be tapped for programs you may be eligible for. Discover information about grants and scholarships. Learn how to avoid common aid application mistakes.

Counselors onboard the College Info Road Show can also provide a brief overview of the financial aid process, answer questions about KHEAA programs and services, and help you avoid common mistakes on the FAFSA.



Be wise about borrowing

Student loans can be an excellent investment in yourself — and may be necessary to pay for your college education. A college education increases your earning potential and opens doors of opportunity that may not otherwise be available to you. However, you should keep in mind that you are borrowing against those future earnings. Borrowing responsibly can improve your quality of life in the years to come. Be sure to check out financial aid you don't have to pay back before applying for a student loan.

Student loan programs provide low-interest loans to students and their parents for college. A loan is an enormous responsibility that should not be taken lightly. The money you borrow must be paid back over a period of time.

Knowing the facts and figures about your loans is very important. If you have to borrow, keep a financial aid file with all important documents, like your FAFSA applications, promissory notes and other materials.

Contact your school: Ask the financial aid officer how much the total cost of attending school, including the estimated living expenses, is going to be. Know your school's refund policy, in case you change your mind about attending.

Check out your chosen career's average salary: Make sure the average income for someone in your chosen field will make enough to pay back any money you borrow.

Borrow only what you need: You'll have to pay it back! Consider getting all of your loans through one lender to help simplify your repayment. You can only use student loans for educational purposes. You generally have up to 10 years to repay a student loan, with a minimum monthly payment of \$50. The chart below shows the approximate monthly payment required on a Federal Stafford Loan at the 6.8% currently in effort.

Estimated Payments at 6.8%		
Initial Debt at Repayment	Monthly Payments	Total Repaid
\$ 2,500	\$ 50	\$ 2,900
\$ 5,000	\$ 58	\$ 6,960
\$ 7,500	\$ 86	\$ 10,320
\$ 10,000	\$ 115	\$ 13,800
\$ 15,000	\$ 173	\$ 20,760
\$ 20,000	\$ 230	\$ 27,600
\$ 25,000	\$ 288	\$ 34,560
\$ 30,000	\$ 345	\$ 41,400
\$ 40,000	\$ 460	\$ 55,200
\$ 50,000	\$ 575	\$ 69,000
\$ 75,000	\$ 863	\$103,560
\$100,000	\$1,151	\$138,120



Stay carefree through college



Our student loan programs let you sit back and relax.

The Student Loan People offer the best loans in Kentucky. All Kentucky borrowers can get these great benefits on Stafford and PLUS Loans. Learn more at studentloanpeople.com.



BESTSTART

BestStart Stafford Loan

- **0% origination fee**
- **0% default fee**
- **3.5% credit** to the original loan principal after the first 30 consecutive on-time payments
- **0.25% interest rate reduction** for automatic payments

PLUS Loan (For parents and graduate students)

- **0% default fee**
- **1% interest rate reduction** after full disbursement (requires on-time monthly payments to retain this benefit)
- **3.5% credit** to the original loan principal after making the first 30 consecutive on-time payments
- **0.25% interest rate reduction** for automatic payments

The Student Loan People make no representation, offer or promise to be relied upon about continued availability of loan benefits or about the accuracy or completeness of this printed information. Benefits may change or be cancelled without notice, at any time, by operation of applicable laws or by The Student Loan People, for any reason at its sole discretion. Students are encouraged to contact The Student Loan People each year they expect to receive benefits to verify eligibility for and availability of the loan benefits/programs and to contact a tax advisor about tax consequences of loan benefits.



A

ACT – a test required or accepted at all public and many private universities in Kentucky. ACT Assessment scores are used in college admissions, awarding scholarships and class placement, including honors programs.

Advanced Placement (AP) Program – a program that lets high school students study college-level subjects and get advanced placement and/or credit upon entering college.

alternative loan – a private loan, like The Student Loan People's Advantage Loan, to help pay college costs not covered by financial aid.

associate's degree – up to a 3-year program in applied science or applied technology in majors meant to lead directly to a job. Typically, courses do not transfer to a 4-year degree. Or, up to a 3-year program of associate of arts or science in programs that can transfer to 4-year colleges and lead to a bachelor's degree.

B

bachelor's degree – a program lasting 4 to 5 years, including general education, a major and electives.

borrower – a person legally responsible for repaying a loan and who has signed a promissory note.

C

certificate – a 6- to 15-month program typically in a vocational or technical area to prepare for a job in a specific career.

CLEP – the College-Level Examination Program offers tests for subjects often taken during the first 2 college years. Many colleges use CLEP scores to award college credit.

commuter students – students who live off-campus instead of in a dormitory or other campus housing.

conversion scholarship/loan – a scholarship or loan that requires the recipient to provide certain services for prescribed periods or pay back the funds received with interest.

cost of attendance – the total cost of going to college for a year. It's used in figuring financial need.

credit-by-examination – a process by which students can earn credit for college-level knowledge by passing a test. CLEP and the AP program let students earn college credit in this way.

credit hour or clock hour – a unit of measurement for an educational program. A class meeting for an hour on 3 days a week typically counts for 3 hours.

D

diploma – a postsecondary program lasting up to 2 years in a vocational or technical area to prepare for a job in a specific career.

Direct Loans – loans made by the U.S. Department of Education. Students and parents can receive Direct Loans only if the school participates in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program.

Dual Credit Program – courses that count for both high school and college credit. They can save time and money in pursuing a degree.

E

expected family contribution (EFC) – what the federal government formula says your family should be able to pay toward yearly college costs. The EFC is based on information submitted on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) about your family's income and assets.

F

Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) – the term for the federal loan program of Federal Stafford Loans, Federal PLUS Loans and Federal Consolidation Loans.

financial aid – money from state and federal governments, schools, private organizations, associations and companies to help pay the costs of a college education or technical training.

financial aid package – the total financial aid award received by a student. It may include grants, scholarships, loans, work-study and other aid. The student's financial need, availability of funds, school policies and the number of students who need aid all influence a student's package.

financial need – the amount of college expenses that a student's expected family contribution (EFC) falls short of paying. Financial need equals the cost of attendance minus the EFC.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) – the need analysis form that must be completed by all students applying for federal and state student aid.

G

graduate student – a student who has earned a bachelor's degree and is working toward a master's, doctoral or professional degree.

grant – a financial aid award, generally based on financial need. A grant generally does not have to be repaid.

guarantor – a state or nonprofit private agency that administers the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) in each state. KHEAA is a guarantor.

I

institutional aid – student financial aid administered by the school.

interest – a charge for a loan, usually a percentage of the amount borrowed.

K

Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) – the state agency that helps students access higher education by administering student financial aid programs, providing free higher education planning materials and financial aid information.



L

lender – the organization (a school, bank, credit union, other institution, The Student Loan People or the U.S. Department of Education) that makes a loan.

loan – money borrowed to help pay for higher education costs. Loans must be repaid with interest.

M

major – the primary academic field of study chosen by a college student.

minor – the secondary area of academic specialization chosen by a college student.

N

need analysis – a process used to determine how much students and their families can reasonably be expected to pay toward college. Need analysis formulas are updated each year to reflect changes in the economy.

P

Perkins Loans – low-interest loans made to undergraduate and graduate students through your school. Loans are made based on financial need.

PLUS Loans – loans made to parents or graduate students. Parents with good credit histories can borrow to help pay expenses of their dependent undergraduate child who is enrolled at least half-time at a participating school.

postsecondary – “after high school.” Postsecondary education can be received through study at a college, university, community college, technical college, trade school or other off-campus courses.

principal – the total amount borrowed, plus any interest that has been added to an unsubsidized loan.

promissory note – a binding legal contract between a loan holder and a borrower. The promissory note contains the loan terms and conditions, including how and when the loan must be repaid. By signing this note, the borrower agrees to repay the loan.

S

SAT I: Reasoning Test – a 3-hour test divided into math verbal and essay sections. It is scored up to 800 for each section. Scores are used for admissions purposes and in awarding scholarships.

SAT II: Subject Tests – hour-long tests given in specific subjects such as mathematics, science, English or foreign languages. More selective schools require 2 or 3 for freshman placement.

scholarship – a financial aid award to help pay for higher education. It does not have to be repaid and is generally based on skill, ability, talent, or achievement.

Stafford Loans – loans made to undergraduate and graduate students under the Federal Family Education Loan Program and Direct Loan programs.

Student Aid Report (SAR) – a document produced from information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and sent to the student. The SAR reports the student's eligibility for aid and expected family contribution (EFC).

The Student Loan People – Kentucky's only public, nonprofit student loan provider that contributes millions of dollars each year to student aid programs for Kentucky students.

subsidized loan – a federal student loan based on financial need and other eligibility requirements. The federal government pays the interest while borrowers are enrolled at least half-time.

T

trade school – privately owned schools (also called a proprietary school) that provide a wide range of courses of study, such as cosmetology, business and broadcasting. Programs range from 2 to 24 months and lead to certificates, diplomas or associate degrees.

transcript – an academic record that lists the courses taken, grades received and credits or credit hours received.

tuition – the amount schools charge for instruction and for the use of school facilities such as libraries.

U

undergraduate student – a college student who has not yet earned a degree.

unsubsidized loan – a federal student loan not based on financial need. The borrower is responsible for all interest during the life of an unsubsidized loan. You can choose to pay the interest during deferment periods or have it added to the principal.

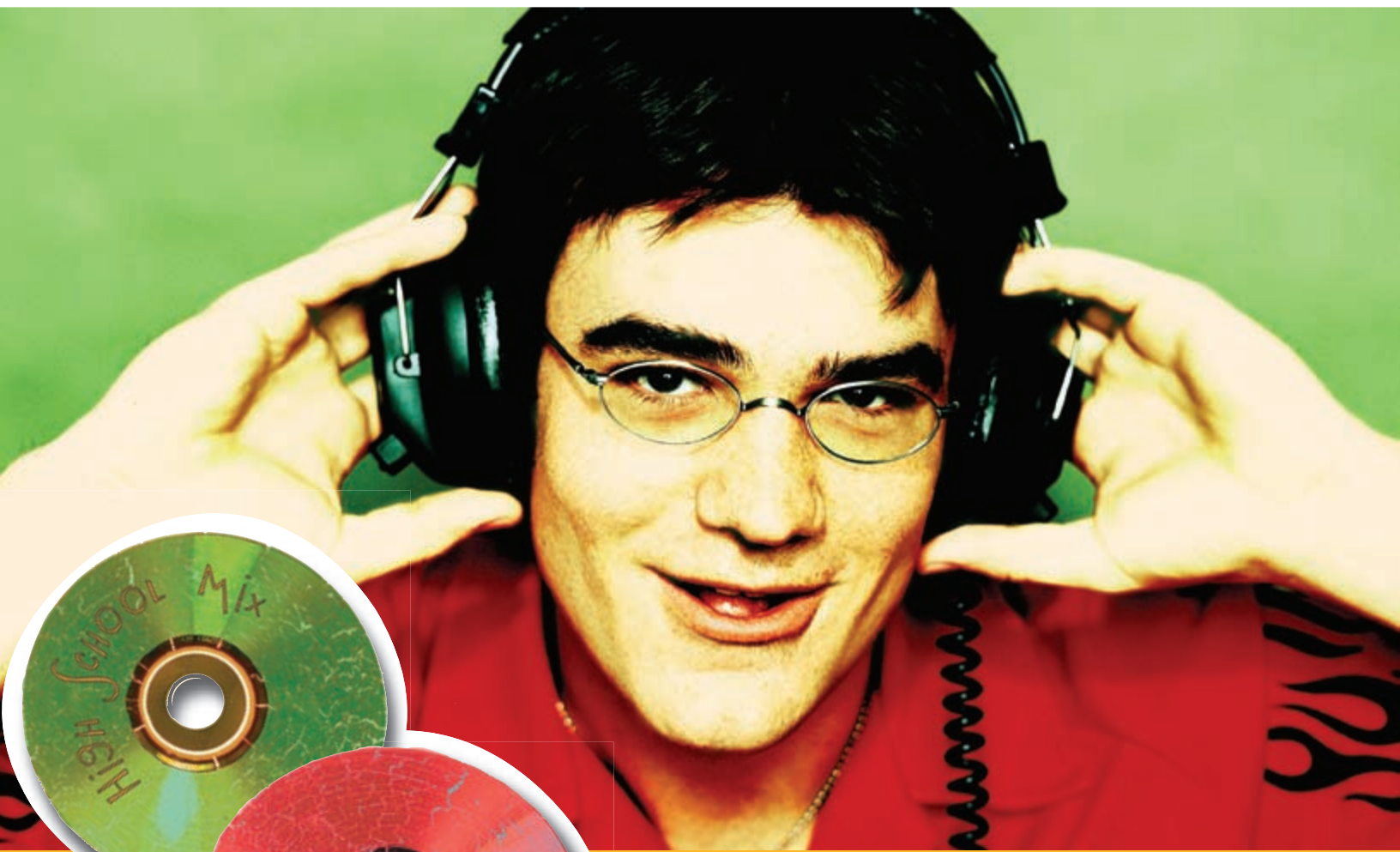
W

waiver – an arrangement under which a school does not charge specific costs if a student meets certain qualifications.

work-study – jobs that let students earn money to help pay the costs of higher education.



College expands more than your mind



It expands your future

Explore ideas, hear new music, live by your own rules. The college experience is too much fun to let pass you by. Grants, scholarships and the lowest-cost student loans from KHEAA and The Student Loan PeopleSM can help you get there. Call us at 888.678.GOAL (4625) or visit studentloanpeople.com.

LEAN ON US, FROM CLASS TO CAREER.



Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority



You can go to college. We'll get you there for less.

Kentucky's trusted source for grants, scholarships and loans.